



State Statistician: Gene Danekas  
P.O. Box 41505  
Nashville, TN 37204-1505  
1-800-626-0987

<http://www.nass.usda.gov/tn>

Released Weekly April - November

2000 Weather Crop 30

Issued 3:00 P.M., CDT 10/23/00

Week Ending October 22, 2000

TENNESSEE IN NEED OF RAIN

Conditions remained dry throughout the Volunteer State last week with only trace amounts of rain reported in portions of Middle and East Tennessee. The lack of moisture is causing problems with winter wheat germination and many producers are delaying additional seedings until rain arrives. As of Sunday, 40 percent of the intended winter wheat acreage had been seeded, slightly behind the five-year average pace. Pasture conditions throughout the State continued to deteriorate due to recent frosts and the lack of moisture. Currently, over half of the acreage is rated in poor-to-very poor condition and many livestock producers have already begun feeding hay. Many locations also reported that pond levels are extremely low and some farmers are having to carry water to their herds. In addition, problems with tobacco stripping and nursery plant harvest were also reported due to the lack of rain. Despite the current problems with the dry weather this fall, it has facilitated the rapid harvest of the State’s major row crops. At week’s end, soybean harvest was running a week ahead of normal, while cotton harvest was nearly three weeks ahead of the State’s five-year average. Currently, 89 percent of the cotton and 54 percent of the soybean acreage had been completed. There were seven days considered suitable for field work this past week. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 33 percent very short, 42 percent short, and 25 percent adequate. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 41 percent very short, 42 percent short, and 17 percent adequate.

CROP PROGRESS: Through October 22, 2000					CROP CONDITION: On October 20, 2000					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	1999	Five Year Avg.	Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
	Percent					Percent				
Soybeans - Harvested	54	39	59	38	Pastures	25	28	32	14	1
Cotton - Harvested	89	79	85	68						
Burley - Stripped	37	31	31	32						
Winter Wheat - Seeded	40	27	38	42						
Winter Wheat - Emerged	9	N/A	N/A	N/A						

**SOYBEANS:** The percent harvested passed the halfway mark last week with an additional 15 percent completed. Yields continue to be highly variable depending on location, but most are better than they were a year ago. Questions continue to surround the State’s late beans, and the impact on yields and quality due to the early freeze.

**TOBACCO:** Burley stripping is running slightly ahead of the five-year average with 37 percent complete, but dry weather has caused recent delays. In addition to preparing the crop for market, many growers were working fields and seeding cover crops last week.

**COTTON:** Harvest is rapidly nearing completion with only 11 percent of the acreage remaining to be picked. If current dry conditions continue, this year’s harvest could be the earliest on record. With harvest winding down, growers are preparing their fields for next year.

**WINTER WHEAT:** As of Sunday, 40 percent of the intended winter wheat acreage had been seeded with 9 percent emerged. Germination problems have been reported in many areas of the State due to the lack of rain.

**PASTURES & HAY:** Killing frosts and a lack of moisture continue to take their toll on the State’s pasture lands. Conditions have declined rapidly during the month of October with over half of the acreage now rated in the poor-to-very poor category. Livestock producers are being forced to feed hay and move animals to market sooner than originally planned.

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION For week ending: 10/22/00 (with comparisons)										
LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending 10/22/00				Current Week 10/22/00	Rain Days	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal	Since April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN					Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	86	44	66	+8	0.00	0	18.89	-8.56	2739	+295
Bristol	79	36	61	+7	0.00	0	22.01	-1.26	1758	+86
Brownsville_TN	83	45	65	+6	0.00	0	21.27	-6.07	2791	+633
Chattanooga	82	48	66	+8	0.00	0	26.40	-0.50	2743	+382
Clarksville_Sew	82	42	64	+8	0.09	1	28.70	+2.48	2589	+401
Cookeville	82	38	62	+6	0.07	3	25.67	-4.63	1967	+619
Covington	84	47	64	+6	0.00	0	21.32	-5.35	2833	+342
Crossville_AP	78	40	63	+9	0.00	0	27.20	-1.99	1839	+310
Dickson_AG	79	41	64	+7	0.11	1	21.24	-7.27	2169	-98
Dover_1W	80	42	61	+6	0.00	0	27.42	-0.25	2305	+359
Dyersburg	81	45	64	+5	0.00	0	23.94	-2.56	2734	+87
Erwin_1W	80	35	60	+7	0.00	0	25.06	-3.73	1723	-256
Huntingdon_Wate	82	43	63	+6	0.05	2	22.32	-6.16	2143	+85
Jackson_AG	85	43	64	+6	0.00	0	21.14	-6.77	2634	+246
Kingston_AG	78	44	62	+8	0.04	1	25.26	-5.16	2282	+496
Knoxville_AP	79	46	64	+8	0.00	0	27.33	+2.71	2331	+310
Lewisburg	83	32	62	+6	0.66	2	27.31	-1.69	2147	+119
Lexington_TN	83	44	65	+7	0.00	0	23.06	-3.93	2584	+1147
Linden	84	38	63	+8	0.43	3	21.69	-6.83	2309	+258
Martin	81	43	63	+6	0.07	1	25.50	-3.06	2506	+232
Mc_Minnville_Tn	81	40	65	+8	0.09	3	24.41	-3.77	2203	-341
Memphis_AG	85	44	65	+4	0.00	0	19.92	-6.78	2912	-62
Milan	84	37	62	+5	0.00	0	22.81	-6.48	2199	-20
Murfreesboro_5N	81	38	64	+8	0.33	3	28.07	-0.75	2240	-305
Nashville	82	45	67	+8	0.00	0	21.88	-3.56	2652	+240
Newcomb	80	30	60	+8	0.09	1	22.93	-7.40	1783	+350
Oneida	77	38	59	+7	0.14	1	23.73	-6.60	1695	-466
Pikeville	80	38	64	+7	0.04	1	21.96	-5.19	2176	+209
Portland_TN	82	44	63	+8	0.03	2	23.12	-4.21	2272	+290
Pulaski_Water_P	83	39	64	+5	0.05	1	27.31	-0.94	2346	-40
Savannah_6SW	87	44	68	+9	0.03	1	21.77	-7.17	2887	+770
Sparta_TN	80	38	64	+9	0.41	1	29.93	+0.57	2135	+422
Springfield	83	39	63	+8	0.07	1	23.16	-3.20	2159	+176
Springhill	85	41	65	+9	0.04	1	23.85	-4.96	2418	+401
Union_City	80	40	62	+6	0.00	0	23.77	-3.91	2335	+143
DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).										
Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.      Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.										
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The Tennessee Agricultural Statistics Service gratefully acknowledges contributions to this publication by: National Weather Service, and the University of Tennessee’s Extension Service.

United States Dept. of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
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